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on 5 May 50**PROBABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COMMUNIST YOUTH RALLY, BERLIN, 29 MAY 30****SUMMARY**

Approximately 500,000 Communist youths, including delegates from numerous countries, are expected to participate in a Free German Youth (FDJ) rally to be held from 27-30 May in the Soviet sector of Berlin. About 10,000 members of the East German paramilitary police will join in the rally but are not likely to be armed. Efforts will be made to stage isolated demonstrations in the western sectors of Berlin, and spontaneous disturbances may occur in connection with the FDJ parade on 29 May.

Recent Communist propaganda concerning the rally has become markedly less beligerent, suggesting that the FDJ, in the face of vigorous western security precautions, has modified any plan it may have had to stage a mass invasion of Western Berlin.

Despite indications that the USSR does not intend to use the rally as a pretext for seizing West Berlin and will attempt to restrict physical violence during the rally to localized "spontaneous incidents", there is still a real danger that the situation will get out of hand and that scattered incidents may develop into riot proportions. The mere fact that 500,000 thoroughly indoctrinated Communist youths will be demonstrating in a divided city already in a high state of tension as a result of Soviet pressure cannot fail to produce a potentially explosive situation.

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TOP SECRET**PROBABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COMMUNIST YOUTH RALLY, BERLIN, 28-30 MAY 1950**

The forthcoming rally in Berlin of the Free German Youth organization, a demonstration in which approximately 500,000 Communist-indoctrinated East German youths are expected to participate, presents an obvious threat to the physical security of the city and to the position of the western authorities. The basis of this threat appears in the conjunction of (1) the inflammatory character of the propaganda preparatory to the rally, (2) the number, zeal, and special training of the prospective participants, (3) the expected presence in the rally of large numbers of the East German paramilitary police, and (4) the nervous tension and hostility to Communism on the part of the west Berliners. Behind all this is the continuing desire of the USSR to force the western powers from Berlin.

The resultant situation favors the possibility of violence arising from the youth demonstrations, regardless of orders issued or intentions modified. There is increasing evidence, however, that the physical harassment of the western position to be expected from the rally will fall far short of both the capabilities of the demonstrators and the aggressive intentions indicated in their earlier propaganda.

This propaganda has displayed a marked lessening of belligerency in recent weeks, possibly as a result of the vigorous security preparations taken
and announced
 and announced by the West Berlin authorities. Recent FDJ pronouncements, have denied the intention of the organization to force an entry into the western

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The FDJ will probably be able to assemble at least 500,000 youths in a dramatic display featuring the propaganda themes of "unity" and "peace". This assembly will include delegations of Communist youth from foreign countries and from West Germany. Earlier reports of fair reliability have indicated that the rally will include also special strong-arm protective units (Ordner Dienst) and numerous "agitation units" which will operate in the western sectors of Berlin to protest against the presence of the western occupation forces. There is no conclusive evidence that these earlier plans have been abandoned.

About 10,000 members of the East German paramilitary police (Alert Police) are scheduled to participate in the rally. They will probably attend unarmed. Delegations of the regular police will probably also attend. There is no evidence, however, that any of these police have as yet received orders to join in any disorders incidental to the rally. Their participation is likely to be orderly and well organized.

① The possibility exists, as demonstrated during the recent May Day demonstrations, that the West Berliners themselves will accept any challenges and may offer provocation to rioting. The strong reaction of the West Berlin population to the May Day threat indicates that they will enthusiastically support the western powers.

The balance of probability, however, is that such physical violence as may occur will be in the form of disruptive "incidents" in West Berlin, rather than a mass attack upon the western sector boundaries. These incidents could reach

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riot proportions. Although 28 May has been journalistically featured as the date of probable disturbances, such incidents may well occur at any time of the rally (27-29 May, inclusive). Disturbances may also arise in the course of the parade, the route of which will probably come close to the western sectors at various points.

A mass invasion of the western sectors, is unlikely. Should such an invasion develop, it would probably be on 28 May, in an attempt of the FDJ to parade in the western sectors. The FDJ has applied repeatedly for permission to parade in West Berlin, but has been refused permission by the western municipal authorities.

The demonstration is not expected to develop into an attempt to seize Berlin by force, *at*

Local police strength is believed to be ^{approximately} as follows: (1) western sector police, 12,000; (2) east sector police, Alert Police infantry 1,300; Alert Police honor guard, 500; other police, 10,000. Western police have been specially trained for riot control, and will be equipped with tear gas. They will be supplemented by special employee groups (Werksschutz) for the defense of sensitive municipal installations.

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